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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

URGENT INFORMATION

April 9, 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: WILLIAM L. STEARMAN *WLS*
SUBJECT: New COSVN Resolution for 1975

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The key points of the resolution are:

- Communist military victories since March have exceeded the expectation of the Communist side.
- The most opportune moment for the Communist side has arrived, and Communist forces must continue moving forward.
- Hanoi will not wait for 1976. From "now" until the end of 1975, regardless of what happens, Communist forces will continue hitting the GVN hard to completely defeat GVN pacification and encroachment and win total victory.
- Hanoi plans to move some aircraft and warships to the recently liberated air and naval bases.
- There will be no question of negotiations or a tripartite government at all. These are merely stratagems to "isolate" the GVN.
- In the near future Communist forces will liberate more provinces in GVN Military Regions 3 and 4 and will strike at Saigon itself when the time comes.
- For the immediate future, COSVN has ordered the liberation of all of Tay Ninh, Dinh Duong, and Hau Nghia provinces during April 1975.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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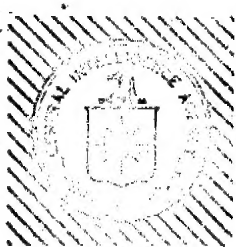
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-- However, the Communist side does not want to rely on armed force alone but must induce the masses to "rise up" against the GVN in order to keep bloodshed at a minimum.

-- Specific missions for Party members follow:

- . Induce the masses to kill GVN officials,
- . Urge GVN troops to desert and surrender to the revolution,
- . List GVN officials in each hamlet so that when the VC enter the area they can call on the officials to report themselves so that the VC can extract information from them.
- . List drivers, mechanics, electricians, doctors and nurses so that the VC can force them into service.
- . Kill some GVN officials, develop some of the progressive dignitaries and try to eliminate the reactionary ones.

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CITE [redacted]

DIST 8 APRIL 1975

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 3 APRIL 1975

SUBJECT COSVN AND VC TAY NINH PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING REVISED COMMUNIST

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OBJECTIVES FOR 1975

ACQ VIETNAM, BIEN HOA (8 APRIL 1975) [redacted]

SOURCE [redacted]

 AFR/UN _____
 EUR/CAN _____
 EE _____
 LA _____
 NEA/SA _____
 PRO _____
 SEP _____
 NSC/PLNS _____
 PGM/ANL _____
 SCI/ENV _____
 ECON _____
 OPNL/INT _____
 SS/PR _____
 CONGR _____

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SUMMARY, ACCORDING TO A 3 APRIL 1975 VC TAY NINH PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING A COSVN RESOLUTION, COMMUNIST MILITARY VICTORIES SINCE MARCH HAVE EXCEEDED THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST SIDE. ALTHOUGH THE COSVN

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SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION FOR 1975 INDICATES THAT THE COMMUNIST OBJECTIVES ARE TO WIN VICTORIES AND BRING ABOUT CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD LEAD TO TOTAL VICTORY IN 1976, THE MOST OPPORTUNE MOMENT FOR THE COMMUNIST SIDE HAS ARRIVED. COMMUNIST FORCES MUST CONTINUE MOVING FORWARD TO TOTAL VICTORY IN 1975. NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GVN OR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRIPARTITE GOVERNMENT ARE MERELY STRATAGEMS TO "ISOLATE" THE GVN. COMMUNIST FORCES WILL STRIKE AT SAIGON AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME. COSVN HAS ORDERED THE LIBERATION OF TAY NINH, BINH DUONG, AND HAU NGHIA PROVINCES DURING APRIL. IN TAY NINH COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE MORE STRENGTH THAN THEY NEED TO LIBERATE THE PROVINCE AND ARE AWAITING COSVN ORDERS TO GO INTO ACTION. THE MISSIONS OF PARTY MEMBERS IN TAY NINH INCLUDE INDUCING THE MASSES TO KILL GVN OFFICIALS; LISTING INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS HAMLET-LEVEL GVN OFFICIALS, TRADESPEOPLE, MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AND PROGRESSIVE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO CAN BE USED AFTER THE VC TAKE OVER THE PROVINCE; GAINING CONTROL OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND CERTAIN ECONOMIC INSTALLATIONS; RESISTING GVN ATTEMPTS TO TAKE THE POPULATION ALONG WHEN THEY LEAVE; ESTABLISHING PROVINCE AND DISTRICT-LEVEL TAKEOVER GUIDANCE COMMITTEES WHICH WILL FUNCTION

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SECRETLY UNTIL COMMUNIST ARMED FORCES HAVE WON; PREPARING TO
INTRODUCE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES AT THE PROVINCE,
DISTRICT, AND VILLAGE LEVELS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON 3 APRIL 1975, THE VIET CONG (VC) TAY NINH PROVINCE
PARTY COMMITTEE ADOPTED A HISTORIC RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT A
CENTRAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM (COSVN) RESOLUTION. ACCORDING
TO THE COSVN SUMMARY OF THE SITUATION, SINCE 3 MARCH COMMUNIST
FORCES HAVE LIBERATED 17 PROVINCES AND THE FIVE LARGEST CITIES
IN CENTRAL VIETNAM WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF 9,300,000. CAPTURED
HUGE AMOUNTS OF WEAPONS AND WAR MATERIALS AND TENS OF THOUSANDS
OF PRISONERS, AND DESTROYED SIX GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN)
MAIN FORCE DIVISIONS. GVN MORALE IS AT ROCK BOTTOM; THE RANKS
OF THE GVN ARE BEING DIVIDED AND WEAKENED MORE SERIOUSLY THAN
EVER BEFORE. COMMUNIST VICTORIES AND THE CORRESPONDING GVN
DEFEATS HAVE GONE BEYOND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST SIDE.
GVN FORCES HAVE FLED BEFORE THE VC REALLY HIT THEM AND GVN TROOPS
HAVE NOT FOUGHT ANY "DECENT" BATTLES WITH THE VC YET. AS A
RESULT, COMMUNIST FORCES RETAIN THEIR STRENGTH; THEY CAN STRIKE
MUCH HARDER AND CAN WIN TOTAL VICTORY.

2. THE COSVN SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION FOR 1975 SAYS THAT

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COMMUNIST MISSIONS FOR THE YEAR ARE TO DEFEAT FUNDAMENTALLY
RURAL PACIFICATION, WIN GREAT VICTORIES AGAINST THE GVN, AND
BRING ABOUT CONDITIONS WHICH WILL HELP TO ACHIEVE TOTAL VICTORY
IN 1976. HOWEVER, THE MOST OPPORTUNE MOMENT FOR THE COMMUNIST
SIDE HAS ARRIVED, AND COMMUNIST FORCES MUST CONTINUE MOVING
FORWARD. THE VC WILL NOT WAIT FOR 1976, THAT IS, FROM "NOW"
UNTIL THE END OF 1975, REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS, COMMUNIST
FORCES WILL CONTINUE HITTING THE GVN HARD TO COMPLETELY DEFEAT
GVN PACIFICATION AND ENCROACHMENT AND WIN TOTAL VICTORY. THE
CAPTURED WEAPONS AND WAR MATERIALS ADDED TO SOME OF THE COMMUNISTS'
OWN RESOURCES HAVE MADE THE VC STRONG ENOUGH TO LIBERATE ALL OF
SOUTH VIETNAM. THE VC PLAN TO MOVE SOME AIRCRAFT AND WARSHIPS
TO THE RECENTLY LIBERATED AIR AND NAVAL BASES, THERE WILL BE NO
QUESTION OF NEGOTIATIONS OR A TRIPARTITE GOVERNMENT AT ALL.
THESE ARE MERELY STRATAGEMS TO "ISOLATE" THE GVN. IN THE NEAR
FUTURE COMMUNIST FORCES WILL LIBERATE MORE PROVINCES IN EASTERN
AND WESTERN NAMBO (GVN MILITARY REGIONS 3 AND 4).
COMMUNIST FORCES WILL STRIKE AT SAIGON ITSELF
WHEN THE TIME COMES. FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, COSVN HAS
ORDERED THE LIBERATION OF ALL OF TAY NINH, BINH DUONG, AND HAU

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NGHIA PROVINCES DURING APRIL 1975.

3. AS FOR TAY NINH, COMMUNIST FORCES STARTED THE TASK OF LIBERATING THE PROVINCE ON 3 APRIL. COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE MORE STRENGTH THAN THEY NEED TO LIBERATE TAY NINH. THE PRESENT PERIOD IS A HISTORY-MAKING TIME BECAUSE IT CONCLUDES 30 YEARS OF REVOLUTION IN TAY NINH. COMMUNIST FORCES ARE FULLY PREPARED AND ARE AWAITING COSVN ORDERS, WHICH COULD COME AT ANY TIME, TO GO INTO ACTION. HOWEVER, THE COMMUNIST SIDE DOES NOT WANT TO RELY ON ARMED FORCE ALONE BUT MUST INDUCE THE MASSES TO RISE UP AGAINST THE GVN IN ORDER TO KEEP BLOODSHED AT A MINIMUM. THE VC MUST GET RID OF REACTIONARY GVN OFFICIALS AND CAO DAI CHURCH DIGNITARIES. THE CAO DAI FAITH WILL SURVIVE BUT IT MUST BE PROGRESSIVE.

4. SPECIFIC MISSIONS FOR PARTY MEMBERS IN TAY NINH FOLLOW:

- A. INDUCE THE MASSES TO KILL GVN OFFICIALS;
URGE GVN TROOPS TO DESERT AND SURRENDER TO THE REVOLUTION.
- B. LIST GVN OFFICIALS IN EACH HAMLET SO THAT WHEN THE VC ENTER THE AREA THEY CAN CALL ON THE OFFICIALS TO REPORT THEMSELVES SO THAT THE VC CAN EXTRACT INFORMATION FROM THEM.
- C. LIST DRIVERS, MECHANICS, ELECTRICIANS, DOCTORS AND

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NURSES SO THAT THE VC CAN FORCE THEM INTO SERVICE.

D. LIST PROGRESSIVE GVN ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL, NEUTRAL CIVIL SERVANTS, AND PROGRESSIVE YOUNG PEOPLE SO THAT WHEN THE COMMUNIST TAKE OVER THE VC CAN ARM THESE PEOPLE AND USE THEM TO PROTECT THE VC VILLAGE AND DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS ON A TEMPORARY BASIS.

E. GAIN CONTROL OF PUBLIC FACILITIES IN A TIMELY MANNER TO USE THEM AND PREVENT THE GVN FROM DESTROYING THEM.

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F. FREEZE FACTORIES, RICE STOCKS, AND MEDICAL AND PETROLEUM SUPPLIES SO THAT COMMUNIST CAN MEET THEIR PRESENT BATTLEFIELD NEEDS AND HELP THE PEOPLE RECOVER LATER.

G. KILL SOME GVN OFFICIALS, DEVELOP SOME OF THE PROGRESSIVE CAO DAI DIGNITARIES AND REINSERT THEM INTO THE CHURCH, DISCREDIT AND TRY TO ELIMINATE THE REACTIONARY ONES.

H. RESIST GVN ATTEMPTS TO TAKE THE POPULATION ALONG WHEN WITHDRAWING.

I. ATTEMPT TO TAKE CIVILIANS TO SAFE AREAS DURING THE FIGHTING.

J. ESTABLISH A PROVINCE-LEVEL TAKEOVER GUIDANCE COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT TAKEOVER GUIDANCE COMMITTEES. THESE COMMITTEES WILL OPERATE SECRETLY. NOT UNTIL THE ARMED FORCES HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED THE BATTLE WILL THE TAKEOVER GUIDANCE COMMITTEES EMERGE AND BEGIN TO FUNCTION.

K. PREPARE TO INTRODUCE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES AT THE PROVINCE, DISTRICT, AND VILLAGE LEVELS, INSTALLING THEM IN BUILDINGS PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY THE GVN.

5. DISSEM: EMBASSY (AMBASSADOR MARTIN, DCM LEHMANN,

MINISTER COUNSELOR POLITICAL ONLY), DEFENSE ATTACHE (MAJOR

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